II. AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS:

Please replace the existing claims with the following set of claims in which claims 2, 4, 6, 10, 18-20, 23 and 24 have been cancelled, without prejudice and claims 1, 3, 5, 7-9, 22 and 25-28 have been amended.

1. (Currently Amended) A shielded electrical connector for mounting on a printed circuit board, comprising:

a dielectric housing including a plurality of terminal-receiving cavities, the housing having top and bottom surfaces and opposing side surfaces, each of the housing cavities extending completely through the housing so that they open to the housing top and bottom surfaces, and a plurality of board-engaging [pads projecting from the] members disposed along the bottom surface of [the] said housing;

a plurality of [terminals] terminal assemblies received in said housing cavities, and each of the terminal assemblies including a pair of conductive terminals and the terminals of each terminal assembly including tal portions that extend outwardly to sides of said housing, each of said board-engaging members being disposed between adjacent housing cavities, each of the board-engaging members extending transversely across said housing bottom surface between the opposing side surfaces of said housing, said board-engaging members supporting said housing above a circuit board and defining spaces between said housing bottom surface and a circuit board to which said housing is mounted, the terminal tail portions extending through said spaces when said housing is mounted to a circuit board; and,

[portions of] said housing [between the terminals] being plated with conductive metal material to electrically shield the terminals in one terminal assembly from [each other, the plating being continuous onto said [pads] board-engaging members for connection to appropriate ground [circuit means] ground circuits on the printed circuit board.

2. Cancelled.

3. (Currently Amended) The shielded electrical connector of claim 1, wherein [substantially] the entire interior of each of said [terminal-receiving] housing cavities are plated with the conductive metal material, with the terminals being insulated therefrom.

4. Cancelled.

5. (Currently Amended) The shielded electrical connector of claim 1, wherein said housing is molded of dielectric plastic material [with the] and said board-engaging [pads being] members are molded integrally therewith.

6. Cancelled.

7. (Currently Amended) The shielded electrical connector of claim 1, wherein said board-engaging [pads] members are configured for surface engaging the printed circuit board.

8. (Currently Amended) The shielded electrical connector of claim 7, wherein said [terminals include portions adapted] terminal tail portions are formed for surface connection to appropriate [circuit means] circuits on the printed circuit board.

9. (Currently Amended) The shielded electrical connector of claim 1, wherein said [terminals comprise elements of] terminal assemblies inlcude terminal modules, with the terminals mounted in respective dielectric blocks received in the terminal-receiving cavities of [the] said housing.

10. Cancelled.

11. Cancelled.

12. Cancelled.

13. Cancelled.

14. Cancelled.

15. Cancelled.

16. Cancelled.

17. Cancelled.

18. Cancelled.

19. Cancelled.

20. Cancelled.

21. Cancelled.

22. (Currently Amended) A shielded electrical connector assembly, comprising:

a first shielded electrical connector including a first dielectric housing having a plurality of terminal-receiving cavities, a plurality of first terminals received in said cavities, and portions of said first housing between the terminals being plated with conductive metal material to electrically shield the terminals from each other;

a second shielded electrical connector including a second dielectric housing having a plurality of terminal-receiving cavities, a plurality of second terminals received in said cavities and mateable with said first terminals, and,

portions of said second housing between the second terminals being plated with conductive metal material to electrically shield the terminals from each other; and complementary interengaging portions between said first and second housings of the first and second connectors, respectively, with the metal plating on the two housings being continuous onto the complementary interengaging portions to conductively common the shielding between both the first and second connectors, said complementary interengaging portions between the first and second housings comprise a tongue-and-groove structure and the tongue-and-groove structure including a network of ribs on one of the housings interengaging within grooves in the other of the housings.

23. Cancelled.

24. Cancelled.

25. (Currently Amended) The shielded electrical connector assembly of claim [24] 22, wherein said interengaging ribs and grooves extend between the respective terminals of the two connectors.

26. (Currently Amended) The shielded electrical connector assembly of claim 22, wherein [substantially the entire] the interior of the terminal-receiving cavities in [the] said dielectric housing of at least one of said connectors are plated with the conductive metal material, with the respective terminals being insulated therefrom.

27. (Currently Amended) The shielded electrical connector assembly of claim 26, [wherein said] further including a plurality of board-engaging pads disposed on the respective dielectric housing of at least one of said connectors [are] and located between the respective terminal-receiving cavities of that connector.

28. (Currently Amended) The shielded electrical connector assembly of claim [22] 27, wherein the dielectric housing of at least one of the connectors is molded of dielectric plastic material with the respective board-engaging pads of that housing being molded integrally therewith.

29. (Original) The shielded electrical connector assembly of claim 28 wherein substantially the entire dielectric housing of at least one of the connectors, including the respective board-engaging pads thereof, is plated with the conductive metal material, with the respective terminals being insulated therefrom.

30. (Original) The shielded electrical connector assembly of claim 22 wherein the dielectric housing of at least one of said connectors includes a plurality of board-engaging pads projecting from the bottom of the housing, with the plating of conductive metal material being continuous onto said pads for connection to appropriate ground circuit means on an appropriate printed circuit board.

31. (Original) The shielded electrical connector assembly of claim 30 wherein said board-engaging pads are configured for surface engaging the printed circuit board.

32. (Original) The shielded electrical connector assembly of claim 31 wherein the terminals of said at least one connector include portions adapted for surface connection to appropriate circuit means on the printed circuit board.

33. (Original) The shielded electrical connector assembly of claim 22 wherein the terminals of at least one of said connectors comprise elements of terminal modules, with those terminals mounted in respective dielectric bodies received in the terminal-receiving cavities of the housing of the at least one connector.

34. (Original) The shielded electrical connector assembly of claim 33 wherein substantially the entire interior of the terminal-receiving cavities in the housing of said at least one connector are plated with the conductive metal material.

35. Cancelled.

36. (Original) The shielded electrical connector assembly of claim 22 wherein the housings of said first and second connectors include complementary interengaging latch means, with the plating of conductive metal material being continuous onto said latch means.